

Alice Yeh/R2/USEPA/US

To

cc

bcc

Subject TAC Conf Call

Meeting

Date 07/26/2005

Time 01:00:00 PM to 03:00:00 PM

Chair Alice Yeh

Invitees

Required

Optional

FYI

Location 888-737-5834, 577654#

From: Fidler, Bruce

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 7:13 PM

To: Bruce Brownawell (bbrownawell@notes.cc.sunysb.edu); Frank Gobas (gobas@sfu.ca); John Henningson; Jon Butcher (jon.butcher@tetrattech.com); Richard Bopp (boppr@rpi.edu); Robert Mason (mason@cbl.umces.edu); Wilbert Lick (willy@engineering.ucsb.edu)

Cc: 'Yeh.Alice@epamail.epa.gov'; Beth Buckrucker (Elizabeth.A.Buckrucker@usace.army.mil); 'Butler.Elizabeth@epamail.epa.gov'; Warner, Len; Gbondo-Tugbawa, Solomon; Kresic, Neven; 'James Fitzpatrick'; 'Gulbransen, Tom'; Garvey, Edward A.; Fidler, Bruce

Subject: Reminder - Passaic River TAC Conference Call July 26 1:00 PM EDT - CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to Attorney Client, Work Product, Deliberative Process and/or Joint Prosecution Privileges; FOIA/OPRA Exempt

Good Afternoon,

Another reminder of our upcoming call next Tuesday. Attached please find a file with a preliminary Conceptual Site Model, updated and refined based on geochemical evaluations to date. Battelle is in the process of further updating this to better reflect the risk pathways and receptors. Also attached is an expanded Data Uses table providing a more detailed rationale for each analysis, as discussed at our last teleconference.

Our agenda for the call will include a discussion of your reactions to these materials, as well as an update on the progress of finalizing the project planning documents. We also hope to discuss with you some thoughts on, and get your reactions to, the prospect of restructuring the project to fit within a shorter timeframe in accordance with a challenge the team has received from EPA Management. While we may be able to provide some additional material on this topic before the call, some ideas on which we'd like to hear your input include:

Ex. 5, predecisional & deliberative

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Please note that the above matters are highly confidential and no determination on any of these points has yet been made by EPA management; we are helping EPA assess the implications of certain approaches and would appreciate your insight.

Thanks to all who have confirmed your participation; if you have not yet let me know, please confirm at your earliest convenience. And please be prepared to discuss a date for our subsequent call while we have everyone present. Thanks.

Bruce Fidler, PE

From: Fidler, Bruce

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 12:32 PM

To: Bruce Brownawell (bbrownawell@notes.cc.sunysb.edu); Frank Gobas (gobas@sfu.ca); John Henningson; Jon Butcher (jon.butcher@tetrattech.com); Richard Bopp (boppr@rpi.edu); Robert Mason (mason@cbl.umces.edu); Wilbert Lick (willy@engineering.ucsb.edu)

Cc: 'Yeh.Alice@epamail.epa.gov'; Beth Buckrucker (Elizabeth.A.Buckrucker@usace.army.mil); Butler.Elizabeth@epamail.epa.gov; Warner, Len; Gbondo-Tugbawa, Solomon; Kresic, Neven; 'James Fitzpatrick'; 'Gulbransen, Tom'

Subject: Reminder - Passaic River TAC Conference Call July 26 1:00 PM EDT

Hi,

This is a reminder to all that we have scheduled a **conference call for Tuesday July 26 at 1:00 PM EDT (10:00 AM on the west coast)**. Please set aside 2 hours for the call. An agenda and materials for preparation and consideration will be sent out in advance of the call. **Confirmation from all TAC members that you plan to participate would be appreciated.** And please let me know if you have any questions or would like to suggest particular items for the agenda. Thanks.

Bruce Fidler, PE

From: Fidler, Bruce

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 6:34 PM

To: Bruce Brownawell (bbrownawell@notes.cc.sunysb.edu); Frank Gobas (gobas@sfu.ca); John Henningson; Jon Butcher (jon.butcher@tetrattech.com); Richard Bopp (boppr@rpi.edu); Robert Mason (mason@cbl.umces.edu); Wilbert Lick (willy@engineering.ucsb.edu)

Cc: Yeh.Alice@epamail.epa.gov; Beth Buckrucker (Elizabeth.A.Buckrucker@usace.army.mil); Elizabeth Butler (Butler.Elizabeth@epa.gov); Warner, Len; Gbondo-Tugbawa, Solomon; Kresic, Neven; James Fitzpatrick; Gulbransen, Tom

Subject: Passaic River TAC Conference Call Followup

Good Afternoon,

Thanks to everyone for participating on the call today. The input is appreciated. I wanted to follow up with you all while the information is still fresh in our minds. **Action Items** are as follows:

1. Malcolm Pirnie will provide instructions for subscribing to folders on PREmis so that you will receive notification when files are uploaded on topics of interest, in particular when comments of other TAC members are posted for various documents...since it turns out this is quite straightforward, I've included the instructions here:
 - After logging on to PREmis, click on the Digital Library Tab and then on the Subscriptions

- Sub-tab; a screen will appear with the digital library folders listed along the left side.
 - Click on the Add Subscription tab along the top of the screen, and then click on the folder or subfolder you wish a subscription for (in this case Superfund and WRDA Project Deliverables > Draft Planning Documents > Comments on Draft Plans) [*Note that a subscription to a folder at any level will apply to all of its subfolders, so if you only want to know when TAC member comments are posted, keep going down a level to that subfolder.*]
 - In the Options subscreen which will appear in the lower right portion of the window, select the conditions under which you'd like to be notified, and then Subscribe, or Subscribe Using Defaults [*Defaults can be adjusted using the Change button in the upper right area of the screen.*]
 - Folders for which subscriptions have been selected will appear as a gray icon with red outline, whereas non-selected folders will remain blue
 - That's it...select additional folders for subscriptions, navigate away from the screen to another area, or log off
 - If you wish to change a subscription at any time...simply navigate to the My Subscriptions window, right click on the folder you want to change, and click on either of the Unsubscribe or Edit buttons which will appear in the lower right area of the screen
 - When additional rounds of comments are posted we'll try to let you know the folders where they'll be posted, but in case we forget, they will be pretty intuitive to find once you get to the Superfund and WRDA Project Deliverables folder
2. As decisions are made by the Partner Agencies in responding to TAC comments and proceeding in a particular direction with aspects of the model on which there may not be complete consensus, feedback will be provided to the TAC to explain agency decisions. [*Hopefully, these issues can be addressed in regular bi-monthly conference calls or meetings to which the TAC are invited. TAC members are also welcome to contact EPA, Malcolm Pirnie, or HydroQual at any time to get feedback on the current status of the effort.*]
 3. Malcolm Pirnie will take the lead to prepare a draft master table of chemicals with specific rationales or justifications as to why they should or should not be a project analyte, as well as indicating priority of their inclusion. [*This table will be circulated as soon as possible for review and comment and used in updating DQOs and FSP1.*]
 4. HydroQual will clarify introductory text in the Modeling Work Plan to better reflect the process and rationale for building mercury features of the model, as opposed to leaving the impression that the existing framework is being force fitted.
 5. HydroQual will enhance discussion of bioaccumulation modeling in the plan; modelers will be included in the BERA workshop regarding assessment endpoints
 6. HydroQual will enhance the modeling plan with respect to addressing modeling uncertainty
 7. Malcolm Pirnie will work on better coordination of the treatment of PCBs between the Passaic and Newark Bay field investigation approaches. [*Unifying lab selection between the programs is a bit more problematic.*]
 8. More data evaluation is necessary to refine the FSP. [*Note to TAC: SOW has been proposed to EPA and the Corps based on the recommendations of the initial geochemical evaluation tech memo...planning to initiate within the next few weeks.*]
 9. Malcolm Pirnie is consulting with Bruce Brownawell and others in the process of nailing down a water column sampling program; the initial work may be experimental in nature to help refine the program.
 10. Malcolm Pirnie will consider the suggestion to substitute additional high-resolution cores in the lower 6 miles for the planned confirmatory co-located low resolution cores in this year's program.

It was agreed that the **next TAC call will be held at 1:00 pm (EDT) on Tuesday, July 26**. Reminders will be sent in advance of the call. Since this is right before the intended publication of the final Modeling Plan, we'll share an advance copy of the final plan with TAC members prior to the call. Please note that Malcolm Pirnie and/or HydroQual staff may be consulting with various TAC members individually regarding their comments as the plan is revised over the next several weeks.

We have tentatively scheduled the next Modeling Workgroup Meeting for Wednesday October 5, by which time HydroQual is expected to have made significant progress on sediment transport modeling as well as the hydrodynamic modeling. We would like to take this opportunity to assemble the entire TAC for a meeting similar to the one last February. So, I'd like to **request that you reserve the dates of Tuesday October 4 and Wednesday October 5 for project meetings in the NY area**. We will reserve the 4th for an **all-day meeting here with the agencies, TAC, and key technical team members**. We would then ask your participation in the **Modeling Workgroup meeting** the morning of the following day, October 5. The **PDT meeting** with the broader group of stakeholders is scheduled for the afternoon of the 5th and we would invite you to participate in that as well. Please let me know at your earliest convenience of your availability for this series of meetings.

And please let me know if you have any questions or comments regarding the distribution of TAC member comments and what may be discussed publicly or with the media vs. matters that should be held in confidence. Thanks again for your participation and input today.

Bruce Fidler, PE

It was agreed that the **next TAC call will be held at 1:00 pm (EDT) on Tuesday, July 26**. Reminders will be sent in advance of the call. Since this is right before the intended publication of the final Modeling Plan, we'll share an advance copy of the final plan with TAC members prior to the call. Please note that Malcolm Pirnie and/or HydroQual staff may be consulting with various TAC members individually regarding their comments as the plan is revised over the next several weeks.